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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DAVIDSON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 23, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable WARREN DAVIDSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

SHIELD MEDICARE PATIENTS FROM FRAUD AND ABUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a truly wonderful business in State Col-

lege, Pennsylvania: KCF Technologies. I had the honor of visiting KCF yesterday as it hit the milestone of hiring its 50th employee.

KCF was founded in November 2000 by three Penn State researchers: Gary Koopmann, Weicheng Chen, and Jeremy Frank. It is a private company and is employee-owned.

This rapidly growing technology innovation company focuses on putting inventions to work in the industrial world.

Its staff develops and commercializes products and solutions for industry and the military. KCF specializes in wireless sensors, energy harvesting, underwater navigation, and smart material devices. Its goal is to bring the latest technologies to life to make things we work and live with smarter.

KCF is not only expanding its workforce, but its revenues have grown at an average annual rate of more than 60 percent and over 500 percent since 2005.

It set a lofty goal for this year to save its customers \$100 million in 2017, and KCF is passionately working to achieve that goal. Outside of its State College headquarters there is a thermometer sign prominently displayed to track progress. Multiple department walls within the facility are also adorned with thermometer posters. As KCF saves customers money throughout the year, the thermometers reflect that progress by filling up.

KCF Technologies not only cares about giving back to its customers, but it gives back to the Centre County community, too.

To commemorate a record-breaking sales month in April, employees exchanged their workday to volunteer at CentrePeace.

CentrePeace was established in 1994 with the purpose of providing a wholesome working environment for Centre County inmates. It operates the largest used furniture recycling project in the county, which prevents tons of items

from ending up in the landfills. Inmates repair and restore electronics and furniture, participate in classes to improve their life skills, and learn how to handle conflict.

KCF Technologies is also working to improve the lives of our wounded warriors thanks to research funded by the U.S. Army Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center, and the National Science Foundation.

It is fully researching and developing energy harvesting, self-powered prosthetic devices and the innovative Kinetic Revolutions Adjustable Pylon for use with leg prostheses. These electromechanical devices make life better for amputees at every age and walk of life.

Today, with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON of California, we will introduce a bill that will curb Medicare fraud when it comes to unlawful and unlicensed providers of orthotics and prosthetics. Our bill works to ensure that the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services stops allowing these unlicensed operations to apply for and collect Federal payments.

As a former certified therapist and licensed nursing home administrator, I know firsthand the importance of safe and reliable products for those who are in need.

When unlicensed and unaccredited providers deliver prosthetic and orthotic services, both Medicare beneficiaries and the American taxpayer are shortchanged.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan Medicare Orthotics and Prosthetics Improvement Act of 2017.

ECONOMIC DIGNITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) for 5 minutes.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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